Service Area Strategic Plan

Department of Social Services (765)

**Service Area 17 of 33**
**Public Assistance Child Support Payments (765 463 02)**

### Description

This service area provides the funds for extra payments to child support recipients also receiving TANF support. "Disregard Payments" are not child support as such. They were originally authorized in the federal program as an extra incentive to custodial parents for cooperation in locating non custodial parents and their assets. The federal government no longer authorizes such payments or provides financial help for them but Virginia and some other states have chosen to continue the disregard with state funding.

### Background Information

#### Mission Alignment and Authority

- *Describe how this service supports the agency mission*

  This service area promotes strong, self-reliant families by delivering child support services, as provided by law through the location of noncustodial parents, establishment of paternity and orders, enforcement of orders, collection of child and medical support, and distribution of child support.

- *Describe the Statutory Authority of this Service*

  Title IV-D, Federal Social Security Act; Code of Virginia, Title 63.2 Welfare (Social Services) Child Support Title 63.2-1900 through 63.2-1960

#### Customers

| Agency Customer Group | Customer | Customers served annually | Potential annual customers |
|---|---|---|---|
| Individuals, Children and Families (served unknown; potential unlimited) | Children and Families (potential unlimited) | 362,000 | 0 |
| Individuals, Children and Families (served unknown; potential unlimited) | Custodial Parents (potential unlimited) | 279,000 | 0 |
| Governmental Entities (served unknown; potential unlimited) | Local Departments of Social Services | 120 | 120 |
| Individuals, Children and Families (served unknown; potential unlimited) | Non-custodial Parents (potential unlimited) | 316,700 | 0 |
| Governmental Entities (served unknown; potential unlimited) | State and Local Government agencies | 53 | 53 |

*Anticipated Changes To Agency Customer Base*
The DCSE caseload is expected to remain stable over the next year. Effective 10/1/08 the "disregard" will be increased and the Federal Government will not require reimbursement (approximately 50%) for its share of the disregard.

**Partners**

| Partner | Description |
|---|---|
| Federal government | |
| Local Departments of Social Services | |
| Other nations' child support enforcement programs where reciprocity exists | |
| Other states' child support enforcement programs | |
| State agencies | |

**Products and Services**

- *Factors Impacting the Products and/or Services:*

  The economy, TANF caseloads or any national program change may impact the child support program and services.

- *Anticipated Changes to the Products and/or Services*

  None

- *Listing of Products and/or Services*

  o        Financial support for children

**Finance**

- *Financial Overview*

  Funding for the Public Assistance Child Support Payments program comes from special funds (100%) which are generated from child support collections on TANF cases. A portion of these collections are "disregarded" and passed on to custodial parents.

- *Financial Breakdown*

| | Fiscal Year 2009 | | Fiscal Year 2010 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | General Fund | Nongeneral Fund | General Fund | Nongeneral Fund |
| Base Budget | $0 | $5,000,000 | $0 | $5,000,000 |
| Change To Base | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| | | | | |
| Service Area Total | $0 | $5,000,000 | $0 | $5,000,000 |

**Service Area Objectives**

- Increase Child Support collections

### Objective Description

This objective sets priorities to increase the amount of funds provided to custodial parents in order for them to attain financial independence.

### Alignment to Agency Goals

o        Agency Goal:  Maximize the economic independence, safety and stability of individuals and families

### Objective Measures

o        Percent of child support dollars owed that are collected

Governor's Key:

No

Measure Type:

Outcome

Measure Frequency:

Quarterly

Frequency Comment:  % of child support dollars paid to dollars owed

Measure Baseline:  61% of dollars owed was collected in SFY 2006

Measure Target:  65% of dollars owed will be collected in SFY 2010

Data Source and Calculation:  Regular collection reports generated through APECS and related systems